GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2997
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2006
SRAVANA SAKA REPLACEMENT OF IPA , 1894
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has been advocating to replace the archaic Indian Prison Act (IPA) of 1894 by a Model Prison Bill uniformly applicable to all States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether NHRC has prepared and circulated an outline of a said Model Prison Bill;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has examined the said Model Prison Bill;

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and

(g) the time by which it is likely to change Indian Prison Act, 1894?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (d): With a view to bring in a basic uniformity in matters relating to the administration of prisons and management of prisoners in the country and to lay down the framework and criteria for a sound and safe custody and reformative treatment of prisoners, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had prepared an outline of a new Prison Bill to replace the existing Prisons Act, 1894.

(e) to (g): Based on the outline made by the NHRC, a draft Prison Management Bill was prepared and circulated to all the State Governments for their views, as `Prisons` is a State subject. In the absence of favourable response from the States, no further action was taken.